

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

: Akira AHASHI et al.

AUG 0 7 2006

Confirmation No.: 6586

Group Art Unit: not assigned yet

Serial No

: 10/571,460 (National Stage of PCT/JP2004/013113)

I.A. Filed

: September 9, 2004

For

: FILLER FOR LADLE TAP HOLE VALVE

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed June 13, 2006, Applicants hereby submit an English translation of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability for International Application PCT/JP2004/0013113 of which the above-referenced application is a national phase.

A Copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability is enclosed.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

If there should be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted, Akira OHASHI et al.

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

Stephen M. Roylance Reg. No. 31,296 July 27, 2006 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191